Mineral water bottles

1105. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA : Will be the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to UNI Report dated 26th December 1993 that more than 65 per cent of the mineral water bottles on sale are not upto the mark; and

(b) whether Government have examined the study carried out in this regard by Shriram Institute for Industrial Research and what are its findings ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The findings have been received and are under examination.

Ifant Mortality

1106. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of children below five years of age who die in India per 1,000 births during the last three years.

(b) whether it is a problem of nutrition, malnourishment, lack of food or lack of healthy food which, causes premature deaths;

(c) what percentage of children born in India suffer under each category mentioned above and the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to overcome this predicament ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) As per Sample Registration System (SRS) the estimated child mortability (below 5 years of age) per thousand population was 29.9, 26.3 and 26.5 in 1989, 1990 and 1991 respectively.

(b) and (c) According to the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau in 1991-92 45.1% of the children between 1—5 years suffered from moderate and 11.10% from severe malnutrition. Malnutrition and infections like respiratory infections, diarrhoeal diseases conribute to the mortality in children under liv

(d) Immunization, management of diarrhoeas and pneumonia, prophylaxis of anaemia and Vitamin A deficiency, Iodine deficiency control programme, promotion of breast feeding, supplementary nutrition programmes, birth spacing and strengthening of antenatal, natal and post natal care are being implemented to reduce morbidity are mortality rates in children.

Harmful Ingredients in Children's Medicines

1107. DR. ISHWAR CHANDRA GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a recent survey conducted by a Professor or Davangere Medical College, Karnataka, it has been revealed that children's medicines in the country have a high context of alcohol, colours and flavours, causing sugar and allergy;

(b) what are the effects of these ingredients on children; and

(c) what steps are being taken the dangerous ingredients from the medicines.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The survey has interalia concluded that the adverse reactions caused by additives in medicines needs further examination. However, no specific reactions on children in India have been reported in the study.

(c) The State Drug Controllers have been asked to investigate the extent of use of additives and their adverse reactions if any.

Population of the Country

1108. SHRI PARMESHWER KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the latest figure of population of our country;

(b) what has been the growth rate (i) at the time of independence (ii) completion of each census (iii) at present; and

(c) what are the details of the Budgetary provisions made during the last three years vis-a-vis, results achieved in controlling this growth rate ?